

# HALIFAX metro



## 1,000 strong

Freedom Foundation of Nova Scotia's Gibson House helping men with addictions. PAGE 7

## Commuter rail study on view

**Transportation.** Open house to showcase early feasibility findings



**HALEY RYAN**  
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Halifax residents are on track to finally see some details revealed about the city's commuter rail feasibility study.

On Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m., the public is invited to an open house at Sunnyside Mall in Bedford to learn about the work done so far by CPCSC Canada after the contract was awarded last spring.

"It's a pretty good update ... and also a chance for questions and input and support," said Coun. Tim Outhit, one of the councillors who has been pushing for the commuter rail study. "This is a biggie."

Outhit said there will be no formal presentation Thursday evening, but residents will be able to see boards showcasing the findings and maps,

and can sit in small groups to provide feedback and ask questions.

The preliminary findings showcase some options for commuter rail on the Halifax to Windsor Junction and Enfield corridor, such as locations, costs, where stations should go or the tracks widened, Outhit said.

The councillor for Bedford wouldn't delve into the details, but said he is excited for the meeting, and hopes many residents show up to support the study "because it is something that people have been asking for."

While there is no guarantee commuter rail is going to happen in Halifax, Outhit said now the city will have a final answer around the issue that will shape council's thinking for the next 20 years.

"If this isn't viable, and it appears a portion of it is ... what are we going to do instead? Where are we going to have development?" Outhit said Wednesday.

"But I'm actually encouraged by some of the preliminary findings."



## ONE CAN AT A TIME

Jared Smith, top, and Larry O'Keefe, from CBCL Limited, put the finishing touches on their Feed Nova Scotia Construction creation at Mic Mac Mall in Dartmouth on Wednesday. The annual fundraiser for Feed Nova Scotia had 11 structures made up of 21,000 cans, with a price tag of \$30,171. JEFF HARPER/METRO



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Accident

## Woman taken to hospital after being hit by truck

Halifax Regional Police say a woman was struck by a truck at a Dartmouth crosswalk Wednesday morning.

Officers responded to an accident around 10:50 a.m., when a 24-year-old woman at a marked crosswalk on Burnside Drive and Ronald Smith Avenue was hit by a southbound pickup truck.

Police say the woman was transported to hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

A 39-year-old man has since been issued a summary offence ticket for failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk.

The ticket carries a \$693.95 fine and four point deductions from a driver's licence upon conviction.

METRO

Jobs

## Urban Outfitters looking for workers in Halifax

After months of rumours, a poster advertising new jobs at a Halifax location has surfaced online with directions to apply for work at Urban Outfitters.

On Wednesday, a blue poster stating an Urban Outfitters would open in the city this May, with no details on an exact location, was spotted online.

When looking up career opportunities through Urban Outfitter's employment site, four positions are available in Nova Scotia for the Halifax location, including sales associates and store manager.

METRO



Organizers of the Sidewalk Protest — Kaleigh Trace, right, and Amanda Stevens — brave the elements on Barrington Street in Halifax. They are hoping their Friday demonstration shows city council all residents deserve accessible sidewalks. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# 'Doesn't have to be this way'

**Winter.** Friday protest planned in Halifax to draw attention to icy sidewalks



HALEY RYAN  
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A large crowd is expected to gather in Halifax's North End Friday and walk down the street against what protesters say are dangerously icy and uneven sidewalks across the city.

Organizer Kaleigh Trace says it's always hard as a person with a disability to travel in winter, but this year's icy

Quoted

"It is so hard for many of us to go outside ... making this issue less visible."

Kaleigh Trace

sidewalks and snowy bus stops have especially affected those with mobility issues and wheelchairs.

"It's really tough, it's quite difficult," Trace said Wednesday.

More than 300 people on Facebook have joined the Sidewalk Protest event, and Trace said there will be accessible transit options during the protest, while those who can't

attend are encouraged to post their experiences with sidewalks on social media using the hashtag #inaccessibleHFX.

The demonstration will begin 4 p.m. on Gottingen Street in the lot across from the Halifax North Memorial Public Library, before the crowd walks along the road to the corner of Falkland Street.

The intent is not to blame clearing crews who are working hard to do their jobs, Trace said, but to encourage Halifax regional council to pay attention to the public safety issue.

Although Coun. Wayne Mason's motion for staff to look into the options for ending sidewalk clearing by the city in District 7 and 8 was rejected last week, Trace said she

hopes the protest makes councillors push for a full review into better clearing methods.

It also isn't a case of the city citing tight budgets because HRM should be able to move money into areas where it's really needed, she added.

Trace said much of the sidewalks on University Avenue on Dalhousie University's campus are showing bare pavement, proving with enough attention, the ice pack that has formed over the past few weeks can be removed.

"It doesn't have to be this way," Trace said.

"The reason that the sidewalks are the way they are is just because the city isn't prioritizing it in the way that they should be."



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## Passenger hurt in snowy collision

A passenger suffered minor injuries on Wednesday after a car and a Halifax Transit Access-A-Bus collided at the intersection of Main Avenue and Dunbrack Street. The accident was one of several to happen across the city during an afternoon snowfall. **JEFF HARPER/METRO**

# Would a library by any other name smell as sweet?

**Committee.** Budget presentation leads to rumination about giving Halifax libraries a new name to reflect diverse usage



**RUTH DAVENPORT**  
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The city's new central library represents a "new era" for Halifax Public Libraries — an era so new, it has regional councillors debating whether the facility should still be called a "library."

Halifax Public Libraries CEO Asa Kachan presented the 2015-16 draft business

### By the numbers

# 44

The number of full-time equivalent positions created by the opening of the new Halifax Central Library.

plan and budget to regional council's committee of the whole Wednesday, including an overview of the new facility's first six weeks in business.

The numbers show that 272,000 people visited the central library from Dec. 13, 2014, to Jan. 15 and checked out 167,700 items.

"They are coming to the library to borrow items, but they're coming for other things," said Kachan, explaining a more normal

ratio is an average of two items checked out per visitor. "I think it's that opportunity for social engagement, for individuals across generations to connect in a public place."

The 2015-16 proposed budget is \$18.8 million, up from \$16.25 million last year. The bulk of the increase is attributed to the cost of operating the new library, estimated at \$2.5 million annually.

Councillors were enthusiastic about the draft business plan, particularly the growth across the entire library system in all 14 branches and in services.

"It really is a new era for libraries in terms of their significance around economic development, our strategy of supporting im-

migration and newcomers, supporting small business and entrepreneurs," said Coun. Jennifer Watts.

Coun. Tim Outhit said the libraries are now so much more than book repositories, it's possible the term "library" should be retired.

"If it's going to be a community hub, if it's going to be a technology hub, if it's going to be a centre of gathering ... I think it's time we start changing the way we think and promote and even call these facilities," he said.

The business plan for the library system calls for increased service to the Musquodoboit Valley, a redesign of the Halifax Public Libraries website, and consultation on a new library in Bedford.

## Staff levels in planning under scrutiny

Regional councillors had several questions for the new head of the city's planning department on whether the department is sufficiently staffed.

Chief planner Bob Bjerke told council's committee of the whole Wednesday that the planning department — which processes an average of 120 planning applications, 3800 building permits and 5,800 bylaw complaints

— has nearly two dozen vacancies to fill in the next year.

Several councillors raised the question of adequate staffing as it pertained to municipal compliance, planning and development, and even animal control, asking if Bjerke had the people he needed to handle the volume of material.

Bjerke seemed satisfied with the staffing levels and

added that the department is undergoing a wide-ranging review of its processes to assess the efficiency of its response.

"As we fill the vacancies, we'll probably be in a good position," he told Coun. Jennifer Watts in response to a question about municipal compliance officers. "But at this point, as well, it's looking at the processes, making sure we've got the right

processes in place to make sure we're tackling it as effectively as possible."

The average time for the planning department to process a planning application is currently about eight months, and Bjerke said that can be attributed to everything from an incomplete application to technical studies to inefficiencies in the department's process.

**RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO**





Supporters and former residents of Africville attend Nova Scotia Supreme Court in Halifax on Wednesday.  
ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Africville suit could start anew

**Court.** Lawyer for black community members says if amendment not granted, it will happen

A lawyer for hundreds of people who were relocated from a black community in Halifax in the 1960s says if proposed amendments to a 1996 statement of claim are not granted, they may decide to start the entire class-action process anew.

Lawyer Robert Pineo argued in Nova Scotia Supreme Court on Wednesday the City of Halifax expropriated the land in Africville, but did not follow its own rules under the city's charter.

Pineo said the residents were never informed at the time there was a process they could follow to appeal the amount of compensation they were offered for the land.

He also argued the new expropriation evidence should

mean that roughly 65 people who signed release claims in 2010 after a settlement was reached with the municipality should be included in the statement of claim.

The amendments would also remove some earlier claims, such as personal injury and conspiracy, which "should vastly improve the advancement and manageability of the action," a motion filed with the court on Dec. 15 said.

The city is not disputing the amendments to add the evidence of expropriation to the statement of claim while removing the other claims. But its lawyer said adding former residents who already signed off on the settlement would effectively reopen the deal.

"The release is all-encompassing," Karen MacDonald told the court.

"It is clear that it releases the city from any claims or causes of action arising from the relocation of Africville residents in the 1960s."

## 2010 settlement

The signed settlement included a public apology from then-mayor Peter Kelly and \$3 million to rebuild the Africville church, among other things.

But Pineo said he's confident the case will proceed in some form, whether or not Judge Patrick Duncan approves the amendments.

"The plaintiffs could start an entirely new class action and (Halifax) would then have to come and defend it in much the same manner as we're suggesting they do on these amendments," Pineo told the court.

Later outside court, he said: "Those who've signed releases, if they're not allowed back in, then they don't have an opportunity to tell their story and have their rights determined."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Witnesses testify on admissibility of evidence in Saunders case

Witnesses testified Wednesday to determine the admissibility of evidence in the trial of two people charged in the death of Loretta Saunders.

A pre-trial hearing resumed in Nova Scotia Supreme Court in Halifax in the case of Blake Leggette and Victoria Henneberry, both of whom are charged with first-degree murder. All of the pre-trial evidence

being heard before Judge Josh Arnold is banned from publication.

Lawyers have made their arguments on a motion by Henneberry's lawyer to have the two ac-



Loretta Saunders  
FACEBOOK

cused tried separately, with Leggette's lawyer supporting the motion and the Crown opposing it.

Arnold has said he will attempt to rule on the evidence matter and the motion to try the two separately as quickly as his schedule allows.

Their four-week jury trial is scheduled to begin on April 20.

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## Dalhousie. Anne McLellan named as new chancellor

Dalhousie University has named former deputy prime minister Anne McLellan as its new chancellor.

The Halifax school says the former Liberal politician will be installed as its seventh chancellor on May 25.

McLellan is originally from Nova Scotia and is the chairwoman of the Dalhousie Advisory Council.

The Edmonton-based for-

### Background

Anne McLellan takes over from Fred Fountain, who was chancellor since 2008.

mer politician got her arts degree from Dalhousie in 1971 and graduated from its law school in 1974.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Survey. Numbers show dip in government satisfaction

Both consumer confidence and satisfaction with municipal government in Halifax have dipped slightly in the last quarter, according to data from Corporate Research Associates Inc.

According to the most recent numbers from the Urban Report Survey, consumer confidence is at 100.8 compared to 102.9 three months ago, and is consistent with other urban areas in the Maritimes.

Satisfaction with the government dipped from 70 per cent last quarter to 68 per cent, so the majority of residents are still satisfied with council's performance under Mayor Mike Savage.

The results are part of an independent telephone survey of 400 adults in Halifax, Saint John, Moncton and Fredericton that was conducted from Feb. 3 to 20. METRO

## Education. Roof leaks cause school closures

Several schools across the Halifax region will remain closed Thursday due to roof leaks after a series of storms battered the region over the past few weeks.

J.L. Ilsley High School and Astral Drive Junior High School will both be closed Thursday for a fourth straight

day to ensure the existing leaks are repaired and the buildings cleaned before students return to class, the Halifax Regional School Board said in a release Wednesday.

A further update on a possible reopening date is expected Thursday afternoon.

METRO

# Retiree benefits adding to N.S. debt woes: Report

**Finances.** Province's auditor general says liability is unfunded, adds ongoing need to address obligations

The cost of benefits for retirees in the public sector is a growing risk to Nova Scotia's finances, a new report by the auditor general says.

The province's obligation for health benefits, allowances and accumulated sick leave for retirees totalled \$1.8 billion as of March 31, 2014, an \$81-million increase from 2013, Michael Pickup said Wednesday.

Union and non-union civil servants, along with workers in the health and education sectors, account for 88 per cent of the total liability.

Pickup warns the liability is unfunded, which means the government will have to pay for the plans through future taxes and other revenue.

He had no opinion or formal recommendations on what the government should do.

"We do note, however, that government needs to evaluate how these obligations will be addressed on an ongoing basis and share with Nova Scotians its plans on how it plans to mitigate the associated risks," he said at a news conference.

The report says retirement health benefits in the past five years have increased by almost 43 per cent, while retirement



Nova Scotia Auditor General Michael Pickup addresses a news conference on Wednesday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Auditor general report

Nova Scotia's financial status was highlighted in the report released Wednesday.

- **Debt.** The amount of net debt held per Nova Scotian stands at \$15,659, the highest it's ever been. The province's overall net debt is \$15 billion.
- **Deficit.** Nova Scotia's

deficit for the 2013-14 fiscal year was \$679 million, more than doubling last year's \$304-million mark.

- **\$1.8 billion.** Nova Scotians are obligated to pay this figure to cover retirement and employment benefits, regardless of whether they have saved the funds to do so.

allowances — a lump-sum payment that some employees get when they retire — have increased almost 20 per cent in the same period.

The report comes as the government faces contract negotiations with a number of public-sector unions, including teachers.

Finance Minister Diana Whalen said there is nothing the province can do about benefits that have been previously won through contract negotiations. However, she said negotiations on future contracts would have to examine all aspects of public-sector pay and benefits.

"Everything has to be looked at, there's no question," said Whalen. "Every time you sit down to negotiate there is give and take and there's trade-offs."

Meanwhile, Pickup returned to a familiar theme of the government's overall financial position, saying programs and services are at risk because of the province's \$15 billion in net debt.

He said particular concerns are the biggest-ever increase to

the net debt per capita, and the fact the debt is growing faster than revenues.

Net debt is increasing at a rate that exceeds population growth — which, the report says, might not be sustainable.

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- 5 Nick Jonas Chains
- 4 Rihanna ft Kanye West & Paul McCartney FourFiveSeconds
- 3 Ed Sheeran Thinking Out Loud
- 2 Taylor Swift Style
- 1 Pitbull ft Ne-Yo Time Of Our Lives

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# 'The house is here to get your life back on track'

**Gibson House.** Refuge for people suffering from various addiction-related illnesses prepares to welcome its 1,000th client

In the living room of a two-storey house in Dartmouth, a man looks at home as he leans back into a soft couch. His wrist rests comfortably on his knee.

Curt, 33, has a master's degree in project management from Saint Mary's University and is one of 12 men who live at the Freedom Foundation of Nova Scotia's Gibson House, an organization dedicated to helping men break the bonds of addiction whether it be from alcohol, drugs or gambling.

"A lot of guys here have degrees, and a lot of them are semi-retired," said Curt, who is going through the program a second time for his specific addiction. "The house is here to get your life back on track."

Above his head, plaques hang from the wall. They carry the names of 200 men who have stayed sober after completing the program.

"It's given me the self-confidence again to believe in myself, because I think after a while you stop believing in yourself and start using other people as a measuring stick," he said.

"We unfortunately live in a world where people don't

## Quoted

**"It's a second chance for people, or a third chance in my case."**

Curt, a resident at the Freedom Foundation Gibson House, didn't want to give his last name. Curt, who has a master's degree and has been through the addictions program multiple times, says the house's positive atmosphere has renewed his self-confidence.

see the disease side of the situation; they only see the town drunk."

Joe Gibson, the executive director of Freedom Foundation, said the program is meant not only to help clients deal with their addictions, but also to teach basic living skills and improve self-esteem.

"You look in the mirror, you're proud of who you are, you've showered, you've shaved, you look good, you feel good, you smell good, people want to be around you," Gibson said on Wednesday morning from the Gibson House location on Brule Street.

Having been homeless on and off for nine years, Gibson said he was inspired to start a program to help people struggling with addiction and to encourage them never to give up.

The Freedom Foundation recently celebrated its 25th anniversary and Gibson said the next client they welcome will be the thousandth.

"To see 1,000 people come through here — I never would have dreamed



Joe Gibson of the Freedom Foundation of Nova Scotia stands by Gibson House in Dartmouth on Wednesday. Gibson himself was homeless on and off for nine years and believes the program's support system and positive environment provides the men who live there the drive to never give up on themselves. JEFF HARPER/METRO

of that," he said. "We said if one person moved in here and stayed sober until he died, this house would be a success."

Gibson said the foundation is also looking at pur-

chasing a new house in the neighbourhood for men in the third phase of the program, who are working and attending school.

"We're also looking at starting a handyman busi-

ness for the men living in there, painting houses and building fences," he said.

Gibson said he hopes the new house will open up more beds for people in the first house. SYDNEY JONES/FOR METRO

## Health. Pharmacy cans sugary drinks

Graham MacKenzie feels much better about his pharmacy and the way he operates it since his decision in September to stop selling sugary drinks.

"We do one-on-one consultations here every day and I tell people, 'Eat this way, don't eat this way,' and they were leaving and walking past the pop machines," said the owner of Stone's Pharmacy in Baddeck.

"It didn't make sense. There was going to be a day where somebody was going to ask why we were selling pop."

The move away from selling pop, fruit juices and vitamin-fortified water came after a full year of contemplation.

"You can get sugar in bars and candy but it is the juice and the pop that are the main culprits," said MacKenzie, who may remove bars and candy.

"We are brought up to think drink all the juice you want because it is healthy, but when you look at how many teaspoons of sugar are in these things, it is mind-boggling."

Though the move was contemplated for some time, staff heard about it only the night before they were removed.

"A lot of people think it should not have been here anyway," said Robin MacLennan. "There were some staff members that drank pop and they just quit drinking pop."

Customers are behind the move, too.

"I think it's a good thing if we take steps to improve our health," said Lois Patterson. "It was a bold step."

While everyone seems to support him, he said he's often asked about the financial risk. As it turns out, only a marginal dip in sales has been noticed.

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# Colin James softens sound

## Hearts on Fire.

Artist adds acoustic sorrow to repertoire for latest album tour



ALY THOMSON  
halifax@metronews.ca

Canadian blues-rock legend Colin James puts his signature electric-guitar solos on a shelf for his latest album.

But the Saskatchewan-born singer-songwriter still delivers for his fans, bringing forth a softer take on his memorable musical style.

"I wanted a record that had a little more space in it than the previous two," James said of his new album *Hearts on Fire*, noting that his previous two albums leaned more on the side of rock.

"I'm a big Ray Lamontagne fan and I've been playing acoustic shows lately, so it was great to get some material that you can play electric and acoustic."

James kicks off a 21-date cross-Canada tour on Friday with a sold-out show at the Casino Nova Scotia in Halifax.

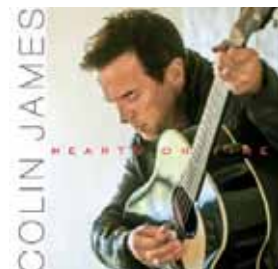
The Canadian Music Hall of Famer said the live

show he's been rehearsing lends itself well to smaller venues.

"I think the material is perfect for it," James said just after a jam in Hamilton, Ont.

"Sometimes when you're rocking out in (theatre) venues, it's a little too much because sonically they're so giving that the real bombastic stuff can really nail you in the head pretty hard."

But don't expect James to be holding an acoustic guitar for the entire show.



Colin James' latest album was created with friend Colin Linden and written with Tom Wilson of Blackie and the Rodeo Kings. CONTRIBUTED

"Believe me, there's a lot of stuff to rock up. We're still going to try to do a fair balance," he said, explaining that the show will be a mix of old and new material.

"It's just really great

when you bring something new into your collection that you know you're going to love to play for a while."

For someone widely known as a masterful guitarist, James' trademark electric-guitar solos take a noticeable backseat on *Hearts on Fire*.

His voice has instead taken the lead, carrying the listener through a soft, rhythmic album that manages to maintain James' blues-rock vibe.

The title track sets the tone of the album with warm, upfront vocals that carry the listener through emotional lyrics with hints of sorrow.

It's one of James' favourite tunes on the new album, he said.

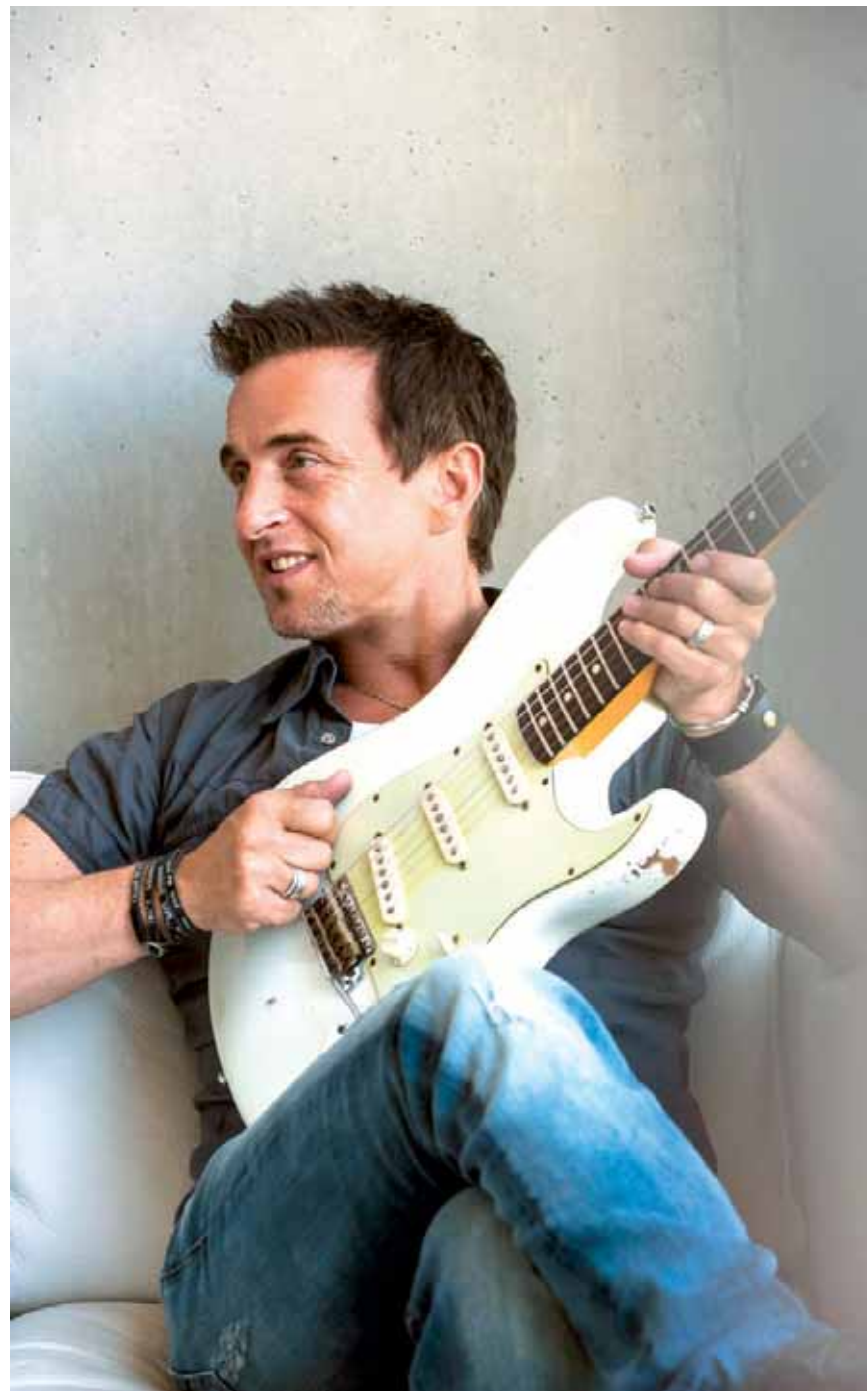
"It's one of my favourites because it's so ambient," said the six-time Juno award winner. "There's lots of room and lots of space. It's not as loud."

But James picks up the pace of the mostly hushed album for the single *Just a Little Love*, which features a chugging snare drum reminiscent of a passing train.

The album, created with James' long-time friend Colin Linden and written with Tom Wilson of Blackie and the Rodeo Kings, also features a few cover songs.

James takes on a brooding rendition of Rihanna's *Stay* that's virtually unrecognizable until the chorus.

He also covers the finger-snapping *Heartbreak Road* by Bill Withers.

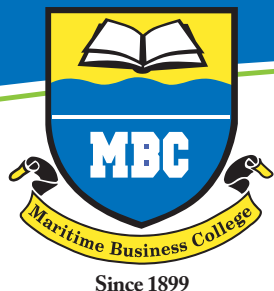


Colin James still will play his electric guitar Friday at Casino Nova Scotia, despite a focus on acoustic work. CONTRIBUTED

### Quoted

"I really wanted something different. I wanted something more in the J.J. Cale school."

Colin James, on his new album *Hearts On Fire*



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# 'Challenging' talks are expected at roundtable

**Ottawa.** Discussions will include Aboriginal and government representatives, as well as families of missing, murdered women

Getting Canada's Aboriginal Peoples, the provinces and territories and the federal government to gather together in the same room is no small feat.

But familiar sticking points are sure to return during this week's roundtable meeting on the issue of murdered and missing aboriginal women — particularly when it comes to deciding who will pay for and administer the parts of a plan to end the violence.

That could result in some "challenging discussions" among the groups when they gather Friday in the ballroom of a downtown Ottawa hotel, Assembly of First Nations national chief Perry Bellegarde

## Key themes

The agenda has been whittled down to three key themes: prevention and awareness; community safety; and policing measures and justice responses.

- Talk will inevitably turn to a full-blown national inquiry on murdered and missing aboriginal women and girls — something that most people in the room agree is needed but which remains a no-go for the Conservatives.

said Wednesday.

"It'll be the jurisdictional piece — who's paying from the feds and the provinces, who's responsible, you know, in terms of financial investments, that's going to be an issue and ongoing, where the resources are coming from," Bellegarde said in an interview.

"The who, what, when and

why, when it comes to the administration of it."

Both Bellegarde and North-west Territories Premier Bob McLeod, who is chairing the meeting, say most of the details of the plan have already been worked out and Friday's meeting will mostly be about putting on the finishing touches.

But there are still big question marks — including who pays for what.

The roundtable will bring together families of missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls, groups representing First Nations, Inuit and Métis, and representatives of the provinces, territories and the federal government.

Four premiers — McLeod, Ontario's Kathleen Wynne, Greg Selinger of Manitoba and Yukon's Darrell Pasloski — are scheduled to attend. The Conservative government, meanwhile, has tapped Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt and Status of Women Minister Kellie Leitch to take part.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## An uncanny resemblance?

A Google satellite image of the Newmarket Health Centre, a long-term care facility, is going viral with some publications in the United Kingdom and adult magazine Playboy, suggesting it "resembles a man with a dangling penis." In the picture, the building looks like a man with his legs spread and his genitals exposed for the world to see. Media outlets and readers on social media sites have been giggling over the naughty picture since the images came to light. The Region of York, which owns the building, was unable to track down the name of the clever architect who came up with the x-rated design in 1951.

PHOTO: GOOGLE MAPS

TEXT: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Kane community

### Four children dead in Manitoba blaze

A mother was able to save three of her children, but four others died in an early-morning house fire Wednesday in the rural municipality of Morris.

"The adults escaped. The

three youngest children were saved by the mother. The four older children who were in the second level of a two-storey home perished in the blaze," said Ralph Groening, reeve for the RM of Morris.

The parents were receiving medical care and their three surviving children were staying with friends, Groening said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Election

### Tories considering five debates

Conservatives are considering a proposal to hold up to five regional televised debates in the federal election to contrast PM Stephen Harper's experience with Liberal leader Justin Trudeau's. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## ISIL

### Egyptians flee Libya by the thousands

An Egyptian border official says some 20,000 Egyptians have fled Libya since the release of a grisly beheading video by Islamic State militants. The video, showing the beheading of 21 Egyptian Christians, prompted Cairo to launch retaliatory airstrikes and ban Egyptians from travelling to the increasingly volatile North African country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Afghanistan

### Avalanches bury homes, kill scores

Avalanches caused by a heavy winter snow killed at least 124 people in northeastern Afghanistan, an emergency official said Wednesday, as rescuers clawed through debris with their hands to save those buried beneath. The avalanches buried homes across four northeast provinces, killing those beneath, said Mohammad Aslam Syas, deputy director of Natural Disaster Management.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Polanski appears in Polish court at extradition hearing

Filmmaker Roman Polanski, second from right, with his lawyers, arrives at the regional court in his childhood city of Krakow, Poland, Wednesday. Polanski appeared for a hearing concerning a U.S. request for his extradition related to charges of sex with a minor — a case that has haunted him since 1977. Judge Dariusz Mazur took almost nine hours questioning Polanski and his Polish attorneys. He was not expected to make a ruling on Wednesday and scheduled another hearing, buying time to study documents that arrived this week from Switzerland, which in 2010 refused to extradite Polanski.

ALIK KEPLICZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Three arrested for plot to join ISIL in Syria

Three men were arrested Wednesday on charges of plotting to travel to Syria to join the Islamic State group and wage war against the U.S., and federal officials said one of them spoke of shooting President Barack Obama or planting a bomb on Coney Island.

Akhror Saidakhmetov was arrested at Kennedy Airport, where he was attempting to board a flight to Istanbul, authorities said. Abdurasul Hasanovich Juraboev had a ticket to travel to Istanbul next month and was arrested in Brooklyn, federal prosecutors said. Abror Habibov, 30, accused of helping fund Saidakhmetov's efforts, was arrested in Florida.

They are charged with attempt and conspiracy to provide material support to a terrorist organization. If convicted, each faces a maximum of 15 years in prison.

"This is real," said William Bratton, commissioner of the New York Police Department. "This is the concern about the lone wolf, inspired to act without ever

going to the Mideast."

The Justice Department has charged roughly 20 people in the past year with planning to travel to the Middle East to fight alongside militants like the Islamic State group. Federal officials have been concerned about Americans going overseas to train with these groups and returning with plots to carry out attacks at home.

Federal prosecutors say Juraboev, 24, first came to the attention of law enforcement in August, when he posted on an Uzbek-language website that propagates the Islamic State ideology.

"Greetings! We too want to pledge our allegiance and commit ourselves while not present there," he wrote, according to federal authorities. "Is it possible to commit ourselves as dedicated martyrs anyway while here?"

"What I'm saying is, to shoot Obama and then get shot ourselves, will it do? That will strike fear in the hearts of infidels."

Officials said they be-

## Northeastern Syria

### Attacks

ISIL militants have moved a large group of Christians they abducted to one of their strongholds as fighting raged on Wednesday between the extremists and Kurdish and Christian militiamen for control of a chain of villages along a strategic river in northeastern Syria, activists and state-run media said.

In pre-dawn attacks, the ISIL on Monday attacked communities nestled along the river, seizing at least 70 people, including many women and children. Thousands of others fled to safer areas.

lieved he planned to travel from Turkey to Syria to join the terror group. Prosecutors say Saidakhmetov, 19, also threatened an attack in the U.S. if he was unable to join the Islamic State.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Writers see e-ink on the wall

As printed books trend downward and e-books take their place, Metro looks at how contemporary authors get paid, or not



**LUKE  
SIMCOE**  
Metro in Toronto

Last week, Canada's biggest authors penned a strongly worded letter to the country's biggest library. Writers such as Margaret Atwood and Vincent Lam were rattling pens in protest of policy that allowed the Toronto Public Library to purchase used copies of best-selling titles from the public.

The library claimed the program was needed to reduce waiting lists for popular books, but to the 31 authors

who signed the letter, it was another blow to a publishing industry already reeling from "great technological and social change."

"Were the program expanded, we believe it would do harm to writers and publishers depending upon slim and diminishing revenues of their own," the letter read.

Strong words, but are they true? In an age of e-books, Amazon and self-publishing success stories, Metro opens the book on how contemporary writers and publishers are — or aren't — getting paid.

## Advances and royalties

The book publishing industry still functions much as it did before the arrival of the Internet.

Once an author inks a deal with a publisher, he or she is given a cash advance — the more popular a book is expected to be, the larger the advance — and hopes to collect royalties from sales.

According to John Degen (pictured below), director of the Writers' Union of Canada, royalties are set at between 10 and 15 per cent of a book's retail price. Only a select few in Canada earn a living from royalties, Degen said, with most "cobbling together income" from other writing gigs and appearances.

"The reality is that most books don't earn out their advance," he said, noting advances have gotten smaller as publishers become more risk-averse.

"The industry has survived by consolidating and tightening up their contracts," he said. "You need a serious track record of blockbuster sales to get an advance that will give you a living."



**\$10,000**

Average earnings from writing made by Canadian authors, according to the Writers' Union of Canada.

## E-books

In 2012, the Ontario Media Development Corporation estimated 15 per cent of book sales in Canada were in digital formats, a number expected to at least double by 2018.

House of Anansi vice-president Matt Williams says electronic books cost his firm about 20 per cent less to make than printed books. The result has been higher profits for publishers and higher royalties for authors.

E-book royalties start around 25 per cent, but John Degen, director of the Writers' Union of Canada, says his organization is pushing for more from publishers.

"We've done our own math and we don't see the justification for only 25 per cent," he said. "The cost of making the product is just so much lower."



ISTOCK

## Public lending rights

Believe it or not, authors in Canada are compensated for having their books in libraries. In addition to the royalties they receive when a library buys their book, they also receive an annual payment from the Public Lending Rights Commission.

The system checks a library's catalogue and notes the presence of a book. Currently, authors get paid the same whether there's one copy or 100 on the shelves, but those who administer the program are looking to change that.

**\$9.7M**

The amount paid out to Canadian authors in 2014 through the Public Lending Rights Commission.

## Copyright

Authors are also paid when their works are copied or used by governments, educational institutions or businesses. In Canada, most of this money is collected and distributed by a group known as Access Copyright.

However, John Degen, director of the Writers' Union of Canada, said recent changes to the Copyright Act, such as granting schools greater exemptions, have negatively affected how much money is flowing to authors. Between 2013 and 2014, he said Access Copyright payments went down nearly 30 per cent. "We've watched a steady decline in the annual average earnings for authors," Degen said. "And I'm sure there are authors in Canada that have just given up because they can't earn a living."



## Amazon

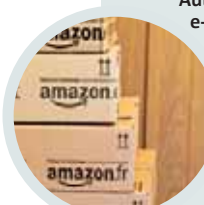
Amazon accounted for 40 per cent of global book sales in 2014, according to Publishers Weekly.

Degen said some authors see the online retailer's low prices as a race to the bottom, while others are embracing the site as a platform for self-publishing.

"Publishers used to be the gatekeepers and the authors were the supplicants, saying 'please publish my book,'" he said. "But now, you can avoid the publishing industry altogether."

Authors who retain their digital rights can sell e-books directly through Amazon and get royalties as high as 75 per cent. Degen believes that is forcing publishers to take better care of their writers.

"We look after our writers as best we can," said House of Anansi's Matt Williams. "It's about more than printing their books. We look after publicity tours and exploit other rights for film as best we can."



## The future

The Ontario Media Development Corporation says the Canadian publishing industry is still growing at around 1.5 per cent per year. Sales of print books are trending downward, but those losses are offset by the growing e-book market.

"The industry isn't going anywhere," Williams said. "It's contracting in some areas, but it's sure as hell growing in others."





# VOICES

## SAVING FACE

In an effort to showcase diversity with their new emojis, Apple has upset a lot of people. Why does it seem like companies' efforts to be politically correct always backfire?



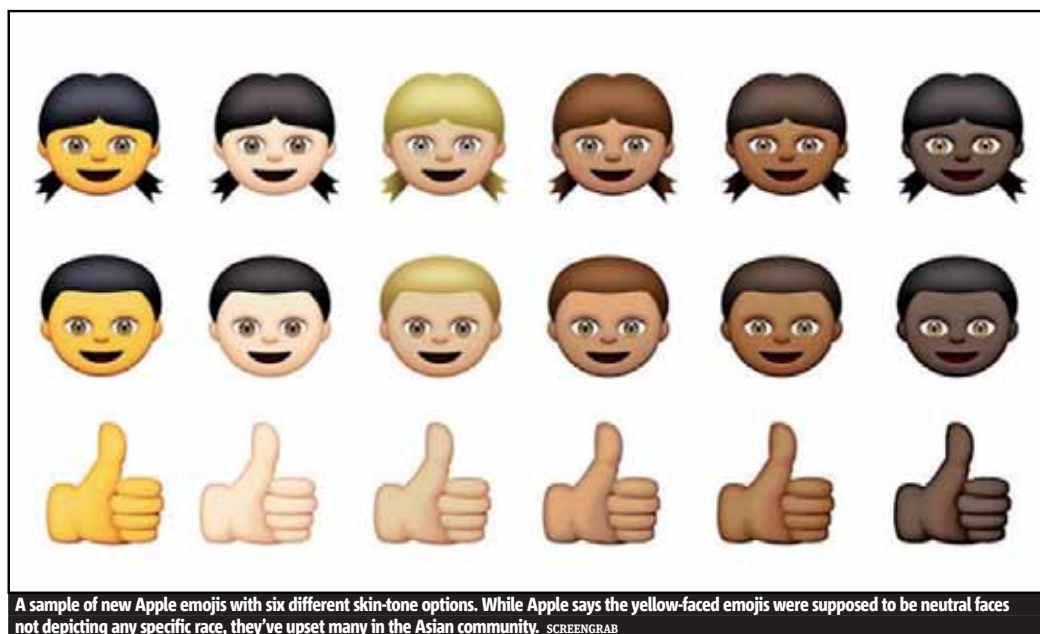
**JUSTIN LEE**  
readers@metronews.ca

Apple unveiled this week a new set of emojis — featuring six different skin tones — coming with its latest update to iOS and OSX. At the end of the proverbial racial rainbow is, in fact, a pot of gold: a luminous yellow face. The move has upset Asian communities around the world, who are criticizing the inclusion of the yellow emoji on social media.

Surely Apple — whose U.S. workforce is 23 per cent Asian — must have seen this backlash coming, considering the long history of racist connotations in describing Asians as “yellow.”

But regardless of their approach, the outcome — and outrage — would probably have been the same. Apple's good intentions to be more politically correct would have likely offended someone in the end anyway.

Apple claims the yellow-skinned emojis are not meant to portray Asians, but instead, all the faces are intended to be ethnically neutral — an extension of the smiley-face characters, I suppose. But wouldn't “ghost white” have been more appropriate, without running the risk of it being misconceived as representing an entire race?



A sample of new Apple emojis with six different skin-tone options. While Apple says the yellow-faced emojis were supposed to be neutral faces not depicting any specific race, they've upset many in the Asian community. SCREENGRAB

To their credit, I'm sure Apple was going for a cyber version of the racially harmonious It's a Small World Disney ride, minus the creepy animatronics. In other words, they were trying to play it safe while ap-

pealing to a need for a more inclusive representation of all races and ethnicities.

Just imagine the outrage if Apple had included stereotypical facial characteristics, costumes and accom-

panying props for each race. You know, like the It's a Small World Disney ride.

But maybe this whole thing brings up the larger issue of Western society's constant need to be political

correct, and how it can, in fact, worsen the situation.

This fear of offending others by attempting to be more inclusive of all ethnicities and races can often lead to mixed results.

For example, think about the last commercial you saw for a cellphone provider or fast-food restaurant. You know the one where a group of 20-something faux-hipsters are really enjoying themselves? In every one of these advertisements, there will be — without fail — a carefully calculated, ethnically diverse representation of actors: two white males, two white females, one Asian girl and one black dude. It's not always this exact combination, but you get my point.

The end result feels forced, an obligatory nod to political correctness wherein advertisers can fly under the radar of ethnic activist groups by simply including a couple of visible minorities to round out a mostly all-Caucasian group.

Sometimes over-thinking, just like under-thinking, can lead to unintentionally racist results. And then you're forced to backtrack by saving (yellow) face. Have a nice day.

*Justin Lee is a Toronto-based writer, DJ and documentary filmmaker who enjoys exploring music, arts and culture and social issues.*

## Great that Brown barred, but let's really give him the kiss-off



**MELISSA DUNNE**  
readers@metronews.ca

It's not every day I feel like giving our immigration officials a high five.

But when news broke that singer Chris Brown was denied entry at our border earlier this week, I felt a surge of patriotic pride.

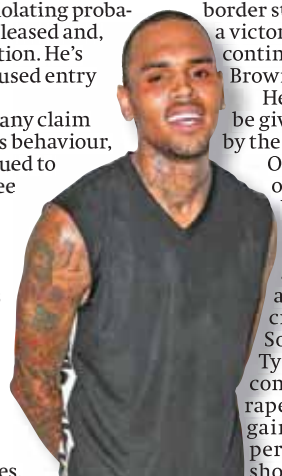
Our country essentially gave the middle finger to a man who infamously beat singer Rihanna's face to a pulp and yet still makes millions a year as an entertainer.

While the promoter of his concerts in Montreal and Toronto said in a statement the shows were cancelled due to “immigration issues,” it likely had more to do with Brown's history of violence. Since he pleaded guilty to felony assault for beating up Rihanna in 2009, he has been embroiled in scandal

after scandal.

Just last year after subsequent arrests, Brown was ordered to serve jail time for violating probation before being released and, again, put on probation. He's previously been refused entry into the U.K.

And yet while many claim to be sickened by his behaviour, legions have continued to dole out money to see him perform, and venues continue to host his shows. The stomach-churning photos of Rihanna's bruised visage have not stopped people from buying his albums and going to his concerts — or the music industry from handing him awards and accolades.



In a way, the industry condones his behaviour by continuing to support him. Which is why the border stymie seems like such a victory to those of us who continue to be disgusted by Brown.

He is not the only star to be given the cold shoulder by the True North.

Over the years, everyone from rapper Lil Wayne to actor Wes Bentley to domestic goddess Martha Stewart have been turned away due to their criminal records. Somehow boxer Mike Tyson, who has been convicted of assault and rape, controversially gained entry last year to perform his one-man show in Toronto.

Like Brown, grotesque behaviour did not stop the boxer from commanding large paycheques and crowds.

Despite the actions of Canadian border officials, Brown will continue to make money.

He ominously tweeted: “The good people of the Canadian government wouldn't allow me entry. I'll be back this summer and will hopefully see all my Canadian fans!”

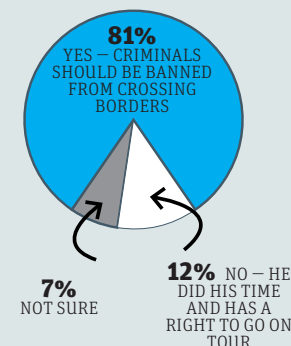
The 25-year-old will likely eventually be back here to perform, unless no one buys tickets to his concerts.

So, fellow Canucks, let's give the Kiss Kiss singer the ultimate kiss-off and stop buying what this awful man is selling.

*Melissa Dunne is a freelance writer based in Toronto.*

**Poll:**

SHOULD CHRIS BROWN  
HAVE BEEN STOPPED  
FROM ENTERING  
CANADA?



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## Gossip

## NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE  
ON THE WORLD  
OF CELEBRITIES



## Not doing her time

So remember when Lindsay Lohan's lawyer rushed in proof that she had completed her probation-mandated community service hours while in London? Yeah, about that. As it turns out, Lohan got a little, let's say, creative with what constitutes community service.

According to TMZ, her community service included performing in the West End in *Speed-the-Plow*, meeting fans afterward and letting kids follow her around. What a mensch. "On one day Lindsay got six hours' credit," prosecutor Terry White complains. "Two of the hours were for her matinee performance and another two were for her evening performance. The remaining two were for a meet-and-greet afterwards." Looks like her selfless giving could land her a probation violation.



Lindsay Lohan ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## Is Jamie all done with the whips?

Fifty Shades of Grey is still busy making all of the money, but apparently no amount of success is enough to please star Jamie Dornan, who is reportedly mulling an early exit from the franchise before they can get to adapting the second and third book, according to Australia's *NW* magazine.

Dornan is said to be wrestling with an intense distaste for all things Grey, and isn't eager to shave off all his facial and chest hair once again and make with flogging Dakota Johnson, according to an anonymous source. "Jamie does not think his performance was bad. Instead he blames Dakota and says it wasn't possible to have chemistry with her," the source insists. "He says Dakota gave him nothing to work with." So I guess his solution is to return the favour?



Jamie Dornan certainly has chemistry with his wife, Amelia Warner.

## Conan's got a date with Grindr

Never let it be said Conan O'Brien doesn't suffer for his fans' enjoyment. After successfully navigating Tinder with coach Dave Franco, O'Brien now turns to the gay side with

Grindr, the "socializing" app favoured by men seeking men. Along for the ride to help him out is comedian Billy Eichner. Enjoy as O'Brien tries out life as a sugar daddy.



Liza Powell O'Brien and husband Conan O'Brien

## What did Ben really say to J.Lo?

Apparently something we all missed at the Oscars was a run-in between exes Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez, both on hand to present awards. During a commercial break, Affleck apparently whispered something in Lopez's ear, earning him a playful sock in the arm from his *Gigli* co-star. And much like Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson in *Lost in Translation*, we're burning with curi-

osity as to what he said. Since there's no way to really know, how about some baseless speculation? By all means:

- "I've seen *Boy Next Door* 17 times."
- "Once you go Affleck, you never go back-fleck."
- "Sometimes I accidentally call my wife by your name."
- "We still use *Gigli* as our safe word."

Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez



February 28 & March 1

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Canadian writer Margaret Atwood will try her hand at micro-storytelling during the third Twitter Fiction Festival. AFP FILE

## Twit fic fest celebrates new forms of storytelling

**Multimedia.** Do you like very, very short stories? This festival of micro publishing may be right up your alley

Lemony Snicket, Margaret Atwood and Jackie Collins will all experiment with micro-publishing during the third Twitter Fiction Festival, which has been announced for May 11 to 15.

When Twitter hosted its first Fiction Festival in 2012, it had already been home to virtual storytelling experiments by authors such as Jennifer Egan and Teju Cole who had shared new work one tweet at a time. The festival puts that storytelling trend in the spotlight and last year featured authors such as Alexander McCall Smith, who offered up four short stories

over the course of the festival.

Among other 2014 highlights, American comedians Jim Gaffigan and Michael Ian Black improvised a tale of a trip through Scotland, and Tom Mitchell led a choose-your-own-adventure-style story through London.

On board for 2015 is a roster of more than 20 featured authors, including Chuck Wendig, Beth Cato, Matthew Dunn, Sophie Jordan, Lauren Beukes and Jonathan Evison, with a collective expertise that extends into spy fiction, politics and graphic novels.

The event's website, twitter-fictionfestival.com, offers suggestions of formats and tools to use to create your fiction, including generating collaborative fiction via crowdsourcing, launching several handles to tell a narrative through multiple viewpoints or using images and Vine for a multimedia

### Join in

- Starting March 2, anyone can submit an idea for a chance to be a featured participant. Once the event starts, all can take part using the hashtag #TwitterFiction.

experience. Last year saw Eric Smith create an 8-bit story with illustrator Juan Carlos Solon, while Ankur Thakkar told a love story using Bollywood screenshots.

Inspiration from some of last year's contributors can be found archived on the festival website. An Instant Story Generator provides an option for the less creatively inclined.

Follow developments and the festival itself via @twfictionfest and using the hashtag #TwitterFiction. **AFP**

## New releases. Kazuo Ishiguro heads to post-Roman Britain in *The Buried Giant*

A decade after his most recent novel, the dystopian *Never Let Me Go*, the Japanese-born British author Kazuo Ishiguro is back with *The Buried Giant*, a tale of love and vengeance in a mythical, troubled Britain.

Ishiguro is the author of six previous novels, among which one of his best-known is 1989's *The Remains of the Day*, the source for the Merchant Ivory film of the same name. That book earned the author a Man Booker Prize, for which he's been nominated four times.

*Never Let Me Go* also became a film, having been adapted for Mark Romanek's 2010 movie starring Keira Knightley and Carey Mulligan.

Whether the author's latest effort will make its way to celluloid is unknown, but a few plot details have been revealed by his publisher and in interviews and reviews leading up to its March 3 release.

Publisher Random House described the book's setting as a time when the "Romans have long since departed and Britain is steadily declining into ruin." Two elderly Britons, Axl



Author Kazuo Ishiguro AFP FILE

and Beatrice, set out to find their long-lost son with many dangers — "some strange and unworldly" — ahead of them and joined by a Saxon warrior, his orphan charge and a knight.

Those "strange and unworldly" forces have now been revealed, at least in part, via interviews Ishiguro has given in advance of the book's release and the very first reviews.

The New York Times called the new novel "the weirdest, riskiest and most ambitious thing he's published," saying that while *Never Let Me Go* took a turn into science fiction, "*The Buried Giant*, which wanders unabashedly into George R.R. Martin and Tolkien territory, is a more pronounced shift, even for an iconoclast like Mr. Ishiguro." **AFP**

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Travellers flying out of Canada's largest airport will have access to a special parting gift: books and music available for free download. While at Toron-

to's Pearson International Airport, people will be able to visit a dedicated website to download select ebook titles and individual songs. The content is being provided by HarperCollins Canada and Sony Music Canada.

Cory Beatty, marketing director at HarperCollins Canada, said six books will be available each month:

ebook samplers which include excerpts of upcoming books, two classic titles and two best-selling releases.

The first run includes Giller Prize finalist *The Betrayers* by David Bezmozgis and *Us* by One Day author David Nicholls, and classic titles *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *The Great Gatsby*.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**





BADGLEY MISCHKA FASHION SHOW IN NEW YORK. PHOTO: CHELSEA LAUREN / GETTY IMAGES

# LESS IS MORE

The face of this season's fashion month is understated — with models from many must-see shows sporting natural, matte skin, eye colours in earthy tones and a soft, nude lip. Now it's time for you to rule your world's runway.

In recent New York and London fashion weeks, 'au naturel' was the order of the day.

For his Fall 2015 clothing line, Ralph Lauren served up a bevy of effortlessly sophisticated embellishments, tonal hues and rich textures.

The makeup was, in contrast, perfectly wholesome. Lauren's broad spectrum of earthy beauty was a force to be reckoned with — flawless, gleaming skin and untamed brows.

Badgley Mischka models also donned a pale lip that was a contrast to their cat-eye liner. In London this week Burberry unveiled several additions to its cosmetics range.

Models sported warm, matte skin, a sultry smokey eye inspired by natural earthy tones and an understated matte nude lip.

**Here are some products to recreate the natural knockout look:**

- Whatever your skin tone, it's time to invest in a new performance BB/CC cream

like BareMinerals All-In-One BB, CC, Tinted Moisturizer Cream, released last month.

- Lancôme's cushion cream and Diorskin Nude Air serum offer other luxurious complexion-kind options.

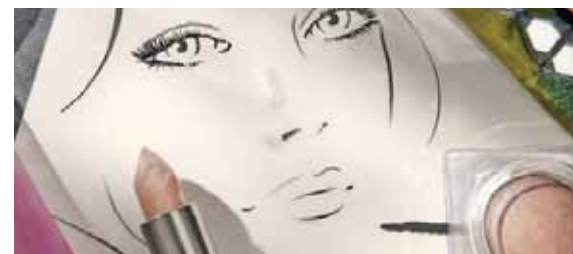
- As Burberry girls Kate Moss and Cara Delevingne know, no makeup bag would be complete without Charlotte Tilbury's Magic Cream, originally formulated to help soothe supermodels' travel-weary skin.

- Inspired by the British luxury label's Patchwork, Pattern and Prints runway show on Monday, Makeup Artistic Consultant Wendy Rowe created Burberry's

BURBERRY'S BEAUTIFUL EARTHY MAKEUP  
PHOTO: AFP

earthy runway beauty using new Eye Colour Cream shadows in Mink No.102 and Charcoal No.114.

AFP



BURBERRY KISSES IN NUDE, THE LIPSTICK BEHIND MODELS' UNDERSTATED POUT. PHOTO: AFP

## Prefer a bolder look? Here's how to copy Kim Kardashian

It's no secret that Kim Kardashian loves to wear makeup.

The queen of contouring gave an interview to beauty blog Into the Gloss where she shared a laundry list of her favourite beauty products and tools.

She uses Kardashian Beauty Endless Summer Matte Bronzer in Cabana Bronze, and the Anastasia Beverly Hills Contour Kit

for her nose and cheeks, she told the Gloss.

Kardashian is also known for her dramatic eyes: she goes to Anastasia Soare of Anastia to get her eyebrows done, and she uses Lancôme Définicils High Definition Mascara along with Kardashian brand false individual lashes.

The reality star also said she is crazy about rose-scented products.

Her By Terry Refreshing Cleansing Gel is rose-scented, and so are the Tracie Martin Shakti Resculpting Body Cream and Epicuren Bulgarian Rose Otto rose oil she likes to use.

As for Kardashian's beauty quirks, Baby North's mom owns an LED light therapy machine called Quasar MD Plus to treat the psoriasis on her legs.

She also claimed that she

only washes her hair once every five days.

"We start out with a blowout on day one, then we go into a messier vibe the next day, and then we flat iron it and do a really sleek look on day three since that requires a little oil in the hair. Day four could be a slicked-back ponytail, and on the fifth day is when you wash it."

AFP/PHOTO: GETTY



## UV rays continue damage in the dark

The damage caused by ultraviolet radiation takes place many hours after you spend time in the sun, even if it's dark out, according to researchers from Yale University who say this is an important discovery in skin protection.

Knowing this means that we could take measures to prevent the damage and the research team says this could lead to an "evening after" cream.



Such a cream, they say, would prevent DNA damage that occurs when UV rays activate two enzymes that

send melanin haywire in a process called chemiexcitation. The study was published in the journal Science. AFP

### Trends Report online

One of the trends to emerge from fashion weeks in New York and London is fringe. See how fab fringe detailing, like in this Ralph Lauren outfit, can look on everything from skirts and shoes to handbags and earrings.

- Online. [metronews.ca/trends-report](http://metronews.ca/trends-report)

- Follow Irene on Twitter @MetrolreneK and Instagram @kuanirene

- Photo gallery. Gucci kicked off Milan Fashion Week with florals and pleats. Check it out at [metronews.ca/scene](http://metronews.ca/scene).





# Copper stirs up black magic in the kitchen

**Ask a designer.** Bright ideas for a reader's tiny kitchen dilemma



**DESIGN CENTRE**  
Karl Lohnes  
home@metronews.ca

**I desperately need to renovate my small U-shaped condo kitchen this spring. Will shiny surfaces like mirror, stainless and glass help make it appear larger? I am not a fan of stainless steel appliances and am wondering what would look best.**  
— Mark H., Edmonton

The trick to making a small

kitchen look larger is to use consistent colours and tones throughout: either all light, all medium, or all dark. Look for countertops with a glossy finish that will reflect light.

Also consider a stone-like surface that features reflective qualities in its design. In a tiny kitchen, use the same product for the backsplash to reduce the variety of

finishes needed. This will make the small space appear seamless and less visually choppy.

Appliances can be black, if choosing a darker-looking kitchen, or white if you're going all light. Whichever appliances you choose, match your cupboard doors and floor tiles in similar tones, either

black, grey or white.

Again, all surfaces should be shiny or glossy to reflect and bounce light around in a tiny space.

Copper-plated faucets and lighting fixtures will add an on-trend metallic colour to the space. Wall paint should match the copper faucets and help to warm up the space.

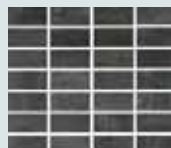


**Coppertone your walls to get rid of boring neutrals.** Caramel Corn 2160, BenjaminMoore.ca



Glossy cabinets reflect light and help open up small spaces. Grey Abstrakt Kitchen Cabinets, Ikea.ca

**Countertops and backsplash:** Deep grey and metallic sheen create chic counters and backsplashes with the durability of engineered quartz. Silstone Chrome counters, from \$200 per linear foot, Silstone.com



Dark grey flooring will blend nicely into deep grey cabinets. Use a dark grey grout to reduce the lines between the tiles. Elaine Cityscape Carbon Glazed Porcelain Tile, \$16.40/sq. ft., HomeDepot.ca

**Black is back!** 19 cubic-foot Bottom Mount Black Fridge, \$1050, Whirlpool.ca



Mixing copper with grey helps to warm up a small space. Danze Opulence Single Handle Pull Down Faucet, \$350, Wayfair.com



**TODAY'S PICK**

**Freshii**

Buddha Satay – rice noodles, fresh vegetables, crispy wontons, and peanut sauce

## GET INTO THE MIX!



Discover downtown delicious at **The MIX** – now open with fifteen eateries featuring local favourites and familiar brands. You can have your pick of quick, healthy, ethnic, and always delicious choices.

**IntoTheMix.ca** scotia square





# Some nights call for morning faves

**Recipe.** Expand your breakfast-for-dinner menu with a pie filled with morning staples like sausage and bacon

1. Take pastry out of fridge an hour before you need it, otherwise it is difficult to work with and will crack when unrolled.

2. In a large saucepan, gently fry the chopped onions until they are browned. Drain the beans and give them a quick rinse. You want some of the sauce to stick to them, but not too much, otherwise your pie may end up with a 'soggy bottom.' Add to the onions with a splash of Worcestershire sauce and heat through.

3. In a separate pan, fry the bacon and sausages (don't use oil, as they should be fatty enough) until they are browned. Chop the bacon into small pieces and slice the sausages. (Don't forget, this can all be done the night before, and it is also a good way of using up leftovers.) Stir the cooked meat into the bean mixture and season — go easy on the salt as the meat will be salty enough. Crumble in the black pudding.

4. Put the cake tin on one of the pastry sheets and cut around it with a knife. This is your pie lid. Grease the cake tin, line the base with baking paper, and then place the remaining pastry sheet inside. Gently push it down, so it is nice and snug around the bottom and the edges. It won't fit perfectly, but if you trim some of the overhang off you can add it where needed. Smooth out any joins with your fingers. It may look like a patchwork quilt, but



This recipe for Breakfast Pie serves six. STUART WEST

don't worry, it will still taste delicious. Pour the filling into the pastry case. Sprinkle on the grated cheese. Place the pie lid on top, and pinch to the sides of the pastry case. Beat the egg and brush the lid with it. Either bake straightaway or put in the

fridge.

5. Preheat the oven to 180 C (350 F; gas mark 4). Bake for 50 minutes. If you made it the night before, then try to remember to take it out of the fridge an hour before cooking.

If you don't, you will need to up the cooking time slightly.

6. When cooked, remove from the oven and let it stand for 10 minutes, then take the pie in its tin to the table. Balance it on a tin of baked beans and lower

the cake tin. People should start to applaud at this point. Transfer to a plate and cut into wedges. It is nice with eggs on the side. **RECIPES FROM THE CRUMBS FAMILY COOKBOOK BY CLAIRE AND LUCY McDONALD. CICO BOOKS, \$25.95; RYLAND-PETERS.COM**

## Cookbook of the Week

### Get back to family



Got a bunch of hungry kids to feed after school? Need inspiration for Sunday dinner? Reach for The Crumbs Family Cookbook. Written by Claire and Lucy McDonald, it contains 150 recipes that range from comfort food to one-pot dishes even the fussiest of eaters will love. Recipes include Pea and Feta Salad, Very Simple Beef Stew and Tortilla Tower. **METRO**

## Ingredients

- 2 sheets all-butter shortcrust pastry (215 g/7 1/2 oz each sheet)
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 x 400 g (14 oz) tin of baked beans
- Splash of Worcestershire sauce
- 6 good-quality sausages
- 6 rashers/slices of streaky bacon
- 200 g (7 oz) black pudding/blood sausage
- 200 g (2 1/4 cups) grated Cheddar
- 1 egg
- 20 cm (8 inch) loose-bottomed cake tin

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# Local teams ready to 'leave everything on the floor'

**AUS women's basketball.** Huskies and Tigers ranked 1 and 2 heading into year-end tournament



**KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE**  
kristen.lipscombe@metronews.ca

The Dalhousie Tigers and Saint Mary's Huskies are pumped to play on the Scotiabank Centre hardwood this weekend, but both are more focused on the hard work it will take to claim Atlantic University Sport women's basketball bragging rights.

The AUS women's basketball championship starts this evening with the quarter-finals, concludes with Sunday's final and for the first time is taking place in conjunction with the men's event at the biggest hoops venue in Halifax.

"Going into this weekend, we just want to work hard," fourth-year Huskies forward Laura Langille said.

"We're preparing for both teams that we could possibly be facing on Saturday," the psychology student from Bedford said.

The two-time defending AUS champions finished first in regular-season standings, earning a bye straight to Saturday's first semifinal at noon. The Huskies will tip off against either the fifth-place Cape Breton Capers or fourth-place Memorial Sea-Hawks, who play at 6 p.m. tonight.

"It's a one-game season every game, so that's what we're focusing on," Langille said.



The Saint Mary's Huskies finished first in the AUS regular-season standings, earning a bye into the semifinals. KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

## Tournament schedule

The AUS women's basketball championship will be held at the Scotiabank Centre.

- **Thursday:** Quarter-final 1, Cape Breton vs. Memorial, 7 p.m.; quarter-final 2, UNB vs. UPEI, 8:15 p.m.
- **Saturday:** Semifinal 1,

Saint Mary's vs. Cape Breton/Memorial, 12 p.m.; semifinal 2, Dalhousie vs. UNB/UPEI, 2:15 p.m.

- **Sunday:** Championship match, 1 p.m.

For more, go to [www.aushoops.ca](http://www.aushoops.ca).

with the men's," the fifth-year commerce student said. "Hopefully it will attract

some more people to our games," the Saint John, N.B., native said.

The Huskies are also thrilled the girls get to share the spotlight with the guys, a history-making step that "gives us a bit more credibility," Langille said.

"It's definitely going to be a different atmosphere, with the lights, the different floor, the different hoops, and just the acoustics in the building," she said of the Scotiabank Centre.

"We're just going to work our hardest the whole time, and if we leave everything on the floor, that's all we can ask for."

## Winning not enough to ensure Rainmen remain in Halifax

The Halifax Rainmen aren't just battling on the court. The NBL Canada club is also battling off the court to build a sustainable business in Nova Scotia's capital city.

Franchise owner and president Andre Levingston said there's "a risk" the Rainmen will be washed out of Halifax without the financial support of fans in the stands.

"In order for this team to survive and be successful here — and return — we need the Scotiabank Centre to be packed," he said after

## Quoted

**"At the end of the day ... the paying fans, we need them in the arena, supporting us. That's the only way the team could survive."**

Rainmen owner and president Andre Levingston

Halifax's latest victory, a 113-97 defeat of the Moncton Miracles on Sunday.

That was the Rainmen's ninth straight win, giving them a 19-12 record on the regular season.

"We brought in a great product this year," Levingston said of investing more in talent and bringing back head coach Josep (Pep) Claros, who led the Rainmen to their most successful season in 2011-12.

The Rainmen could make it 10 straight Thursday night against the Island Storm in Charlottetown, their final regular-season game. A win will put the Rainmen in the

Atlantic Division's top spot in time for playoffs.

Attendance was slow to start this season, and then steadily rose, but "drastic improvement" is still needed, Levingston said. Recorded attendance was 3,524 at Sunday's final regular-season home game.

"It's very important that our fans understand ... that them coming out and being at the games helps this business," Levingston said.

"We're fighting here."

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO



Rainmen owner and president Andre Levingston METRO FILE



# Leafs trade Winnik for Cole Harbour's Sill

**NHL.** Rebuilding Toronto also gets two draft picks in deal

The Toronto Maple Leafs' sell-off continued Wednesday as forward Daniel Winnik was traded to the Pittsburgh Penguins for centre Zach Sill and two draft picks.

Winnik was the Maple Leafs' top trade candidate left after the team dealt Cody Franson and Mike Santorelli to Nashville on Feb. 15.

Sill — a Cole Harbour native — is a 26-year-old with 62 games of NHL experience. The Leafs also received a second-round pick in 2016 and a fourth-round pick in this year's draft. In 55 games, Winnik has seven goals and 18

assists but he has been one of Toronto's best players over the past two months.

"His play put him in a position where he was wanted and put us in a position to get some quality assets back," general manager Dave Nonis said on a conference call.

Nonis added that the Penguins showed strong interest in Winnik in the past 10 days and that their offer improved

over the past 48 hours.

Other teams were also interested in the 29-year-old Toronto native, who Leafs interim coach Peter Horachek called the team's best penalty killer.

"He's been able to play on a third line or he can play on a first line, he can move back down, he can play left wing, right wing," Horachek said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Zach Sill DREW HALLOWELL/GETTY IMAGES

**NBA**

## Bulls fans reeling again after news of Rose surgery

The news that Derrick Rose will have knee surgery again hit the Chicago Bulls and their fans hard and left them in a familiar spot — trying to get by without their star point guard.

The torn meniscus in his right knee was announced Tuesday night, another tough twist for a franchise, a star, his sponsors and a fan base that thought the Bulls were entering another golden era just a few years ago, with the Chicago product leading the renaissance.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**NHL**

## Cheveldayoff adds to Jets' ranks ahead of playoffs

Kevin Cheveldayoff thought the injury-stricken Winnipeg Jets could use a boost in their playoff drive so he pulled off his second trade this month.

The general manager swung a deal to acquire eight-year forward Jiri Tlustý from the Carolina Hurricanes on Wednesday for two draft picks. Carolina gets a conditional sixth-round pick in this year's NHL draft, but it'll become a fifth-round pick if the Jets make the playoffs. The Hurricanes also get a third-rounder in the 2016 draft.

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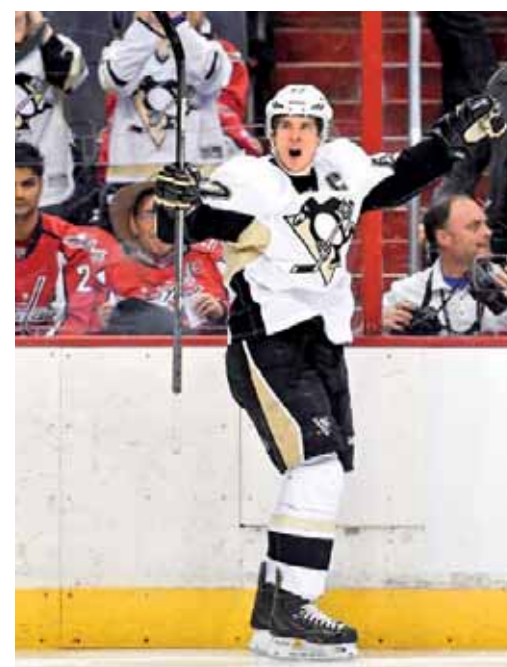
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## Capitals can't handle Crosby

Sidney Crosby scored his 20th goal of the season, Evgeni Malkin added three assists, and the Pittsburgh Penguins held on to beat the Washington Capitals 4-3 on Wednesday night, averting a sweep of the season series.

NICK WASS/AP PHOTO



## AUGMENTED REALITY

**Stuck on 12 Across?**  
**Scan this image with your  
Metro News app for today's  
crossword and Sudoku answers.**  
**It's OK. No one's watching.**



### Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

#### ♈ Aries

**March 21 - April 20**

You won't be shy about telling others what you think but you are expecting too much if you expect everyone to agree with you and you may lose friends.

#### ♉ Taurus

**April 21 - May 21**

According to the planets you will be taking on a lot more duties over the next few weeks. That may not be what you were hoping to hear but it will earn you more respect and money.

#### ♊ Gemini

**May 22 - June 21**

Something you hear from a friend will make you wonder if you have taken a wrong turn. Maybe you should retrace your footsteps and start again.

#### ♋ Cancer

**June 22 - July 23**

No matter how annoyed you may be with a particular person this is not the time to put your feelings into words. Hit back only when you have more evidence to make your case.

#### ♌ Leo

**July 24 - Aug. 23**

Partners won't be happy if you go back on what you told them a few days ago. Your priorities have changed but if you made promises you must keep them.

#### ♍ Virgo

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**

You seem to believe the universe is against you but that is not true. Just because you have fallen out with a loved one over something minor does not mean it's the end of the world.

#### ♎ Libra

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**

You will get the chance to make serious progress in a creative endeavour of some sort. But don't get carried away because there is a lot of work to do yet.

#### ♏ Scorpio

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**

Someone will play on your fears and make you think a situation is worse than it is. According to the planets you should reject everything you hear that makes you feel uneasy.

#### ♐ Sagittarius

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**

You will have words with someone whose personality rubs you the wrong way. Less timid souls might keep their opinions to themselves. Why should you when you're the one in the right?

#### ♑ Capricorn

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**

Make the most of your newfound freedom to get out into the world and explore. Do something you have not been able to do for some time today.

#### ♒ Aquarius

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**

The only danger today is you might say too much and tip off a rival about what you are up to. Be wary if they try to engage you in personal conversation.

#### ♓ Pisces

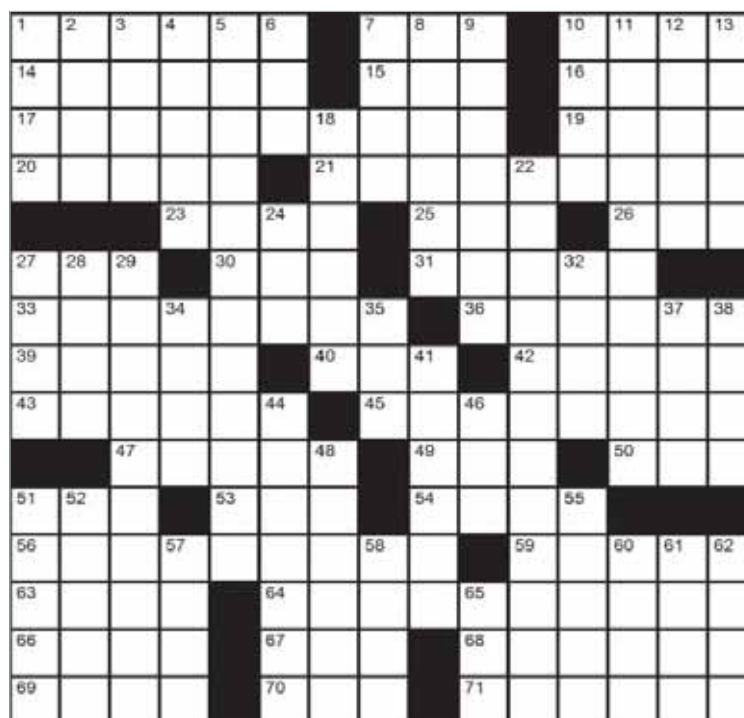
**Feb. 20 - March 20**

You will get advice from all directions today and if you are smart you will ignore it all. You already know what it is you should be doing. So, do it!

### Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

#### Across

1. Accounting reviews
7. Passenger's proof, puny-ly
10. 'Trillion'-meaning prefix
14. Noel Coward play, \_\_\_ Spirit (Currently at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto)
15. Poetic contraction
16. Bygone boy-friends, briefly
17. BC community near Langley
19. Performs
20. 1871 premiere city of Aida
21. Nunavut: \_\_\_ Island
23. Certain curtain
25. Egyptian cobra
26. Batch
27. Religious robe
30. Dog type
31. "Eating \_\_\_" (1982)
33. Terry David \_\_\_, Canadian broadcaster/actor who is an alum of MuchMusic
35. Busybodies
39. Cooking, as potatoes
40. Kander and \_\_\_ (Stage musicals song-writing team)
42. Opera voice
43. Kelly Clarkson's "\_\_\_ Like Us"
45. Saw sort
47. Retro synthesizers
49. Bow
50. Agree-er's vote
51. Post-WWII female mil. aviators group



53. "That's splendid!"
54. Zeds alternatives
56. \_\_\_ Head: According to The Flat Earth Society, it (located on Fogo Island, Newfoundland) is one of the four corners of the flat earth
59. Ranch sound effect

63. Fertilizer component
64. King Arthur's furniture piece: 2 wds.
66. Common seasoning
67. 'Guitar' suffix
68. Mr. Hammer's
69. Payola\$ singer Paul
70. Acidity measures,

- commonly
  71. Puts into disarray
- Down**
1. Rhyming pattern
  2. "The Producers" (2005) role
  3. "Little \_\_\_ know..."
  4. Roman roads
  5. They might add pops of colour to a

- sofa: 2 wds.
6. Part [abbr.]
7. Wrench
8. Bulletproof vest fibre
9. Forest fluid: 2 wds.
10. Winnipeg Jets
11. Governor General of Canada: His \_\_\_ the Right Honourable David Johnston

12. Ode-to-the-past style
13. Holding
18. Music style
22. Highlights/scores and more program on TSN
24. Jul. follower
27. Draw \_\_\_ (Do cartography)
28. Car mechanic's job
29. Rural village in Ontario's Prince Edward County
32. Slangy one-eighty turns
34. Bev. Hills clinic request
35. US TV channel
37. Casanova
38. Mlle. cousin
41. Audacious
44. Vain vacay: 2 wds.
46. State above Calif.
48. Nike logo
51. George \_\_\_, 43rd President
52. Wide assortment
55. Tailoring lines
57. Pen brand, with Paper
58. \_\_\_ and bolts
60. Nile wader
61. Hilarity
62. \_\_\_ Village, in Hamilton
65. Beaver's construction

### Yesterday's Crossword



#### Online

See today's answers at  
[metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers)

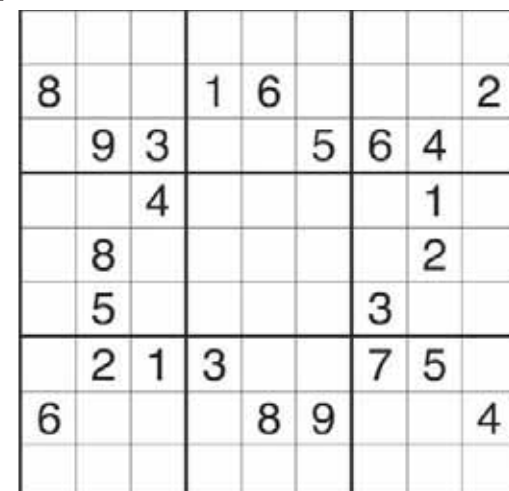


### Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

#### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

### Yesterday's Sudoku



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